

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 24 May 1976

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2. (Internal Use Only - PLC) LIAISON Bob Fink, staff member of the Subcommittee on Government Information and Individual Rights, House Committee on Government Operations, called requesting a copy of Mr. Colby's speech over the weekend in New Jersey, in which he stated that the mail intercept indices covered only opened letters. After checking with Mr. Angus Thuermer, Assistant to the Director, I called Mr. Fink and informed him we did not have the speech but would send him a copy of the AP item. I explained that the item is apparently a garble since unopened mail is included in the indices. I told Mr. Fink a new compilation of figures on the index and the program was being prepared for a court case and they will get a copy.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Legislative Counsel  
Washington, D. C. 20505

[Redacted]

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TO: Mr. Bob Fink, staff member  
Subcommittee on Government Information and  
Individual Rights  
House Committee on Government Operations

25 May 1976

Dear Bob:

Per our conversation yesterday,  
enclosed is a copy of the AP item on  
William E. Colby's speech.

[Redacted]

Assistant Legislative Counsel

As I indicated the story is apparently  
a garble since the indices do include mail  
covers.

FORM 1533 OBSOLETE  
6-68 PREVIOUS  
EDITIONS

(40)

Journal Item #2

Monday - 24 May 1976

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COLBY

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) -- FORMER CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY DIRECTOR WILLIAM E. COLBY SAID TODAY THE CIA DID NOT INDEX ALL THE NAMES OF PERSONS WHOSE LETTERS TO THE SOVIET UNION WERE INTERCEPTED BECAUSE SOME OF THE LETTERS WEREN'T OPENED.

COLBY SAID HE BELIEVED THAT ONLY PERSONS WHOSE LETTERS WERE OPENED ARE INCLUDED IN A MICROFILM INDEX THE AGENCY COMPILED FROM 1953 TO EARLY 1973, WHEN, COLBY SAID, HE LEARNED OF THE PROGRAM AND ORDERED IT HALTED.

BEFORE SPEAKING TO THE NEW JERSEY BANKERS ASSOCIATION HERE, COLBY WAS ASKED AT A NEWS CONFERENCE WHETHER HIS AGENCY SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC FOR ALLEGED MISDEEDS IN THE PAST.

"THE TESTIMONY OF THE LAST YEAR OR SO, IN WHICH WE CERTAINLY PROVIDED ALL THE SPECIFICS OF THE PAST AND WHICH I PUT OUT IN PUBLIC, DID CONSTITUTE A STATEMENT THAT WE DID THINGS THAT WERE WRONG," HE SAID.

COLBY SAID HE WELCOMED THE NEW SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND SAID HE THOUGHT THE SENATORS WOULD MAKE A SERIOUS EFFORT TO GUIDE THE AGENCY.

"THE BETTER THE EXTERNAL SUPERVISION OF THE SYSTEM, THE BETTER THE INTERNAL SUPERVISION," HE SAID.

COLBY ALSO SAID THE AGENCY MUST REVISE ITS POLICY ON SECRECY.

"THAT IS, LESS SECRECY ON THINGS THAT DON'T NEED TO BE SECRET AND MORE SECRECY ON THINGS THAT NEED TO BE SECRET," HE SAID.

COLBY PREDICTED THAT SOME OLD-LINE CIA OFFICERS MIGHT OBJECT TO THE NEW POLICY, BUT HE ADDED, "WE WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP THE SECRETS."

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